

### Areas of Critical Environmental Concern Update, 10-14-2016

As of October 2016, the BLM considers 17 Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) to meet both the relevance and importance criteria in the BSWI RMP Planning Area. These ACECs will be carried forward and further analyzed in the Draft RMP/EIS, where special management will be addressed. The April 2015 and newest October 2016 ACEC Report on the Application of Relevance and Importance Criteria are both available on the project website at [www.blm.gov/ak/planning/bswi](http://www.blm.gov/ak/planning/bswi).

The new 2016 report is written as an update to the April 2015 report and was published to the website today. The 2016 report is available in two formats. One format contains gray highlighted text that indicates changes and updates to the 2015 report information. A “clean” copy is also available without highlighting.

The October 2016 Report update documents seven new ACEC evaluations. Two ACECs, previously considered in the 2015 report, were re-evaluated and one was added while the second was removed from further consideration. Five new nominations were also evaluated.

1. Bonasila River Watershed ACEC was re-evaluated and not found to meet both relevance and importance **(removed)**
2. Tagagawik River ACEC was re-evaluated and found to meet both relevance and importance **(added)**
3. Holy Cross ACEC new nomination
4. Ohogamiut ACEC new nomination
5. Whitefish Spawning ACEC new nomination
6. Swift River Whitefish Spawning ACEC new nomination found to meet both relevance and importance **(added)**
7. Huslia ACEC new nomination